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of the Old Testament. Some of these have been gathered from the notes of his stenographer and issued in the present volume. They cover twenty different discourses from Genesis through the book of Ruth, and deal with the most prominent figures and events during these periods. The first two discourses are treatments of "The Inspiration of the Bible" and "How to Read the Bible." Mr. Beecher of course did not believe in the current verbal or even in the so-called plenary inspiration of the Scripture. But he firmly believed in the supernatural and divine element of the Bible. He gives an able presentation of what he conceives a doctrine of inspiration should embody. The second discourse on "How to Read the Bible" is not so satisfactory. After spending considerable time on methods of interpretation of the Scriptures, he advises the reader, without reference to creed or belief, to read the Book of Proverbs, to mark it with special reference to his own life. He should note with pencil the rules and maxims of the book which he has already adopted and followed, those which he is willing and ready to adopt, and those which at present he is not able to follow. The paper closes with an appeal to the reader to spend his time on the maxims of this book. Later on he will deal with other topics for the same reader. His discourses following this take up the Book of Beginnings, or Genesis; Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, the Emancipation, etc., etc. Mr. Beecher found myth, legend and tradition in many of the early accounts of the Old Testament. Difficulties were thus easily disposed of, and absolute freedom is manifest in interpretation. The directness, the simplicity and the comprehensive conception of the writer are apparent on every page. His discourses are not merely rhetoric, not mere flourishes of expression, but have a purpose in view. They are aimed at the life of the listener. He endeavors, apparently at every point, not only to brush away error but to lift up man, to ennoble his life and to lead him into a higher aspiration. Though one cannot agree with him at every point, nor adopt his interpretations through and through, still there is an inspiration and a strength in his discourses which elevate and ennoble. While these Bible Studies add little if anything to our information concerning the topics with which they deal, still they are suggestive and inspiring treatments of the themes which they discuss. They present in narrative form material which the general Bible student will be sure to enjoy. PRICE.

The Problem of Jesus. By GEORGE DANA BOARDMAN, D.D., LL.D. Revised edition. New York and Chicago: F. H. Revell Co., 1892. 12 mo., pp. 36.

This is a very remarkable book. Few men of our generation, other than its accomplished author, could have produced it. It sets forth in condensed and forcible form the argument for the acceptance of Jesus Christ, based on his *personality*, his *religion*, and his *influence*. The exposition of these three elements of the "problem of Jesus" is in itself a cumulative argument carried into

hundred of items, yet so compactly stated as to be included in the compass of a few pages. This argument is the obverse and the complement of the historical argument as set forth, for example, in Fisher's *Supernatural Origin of Christianity*. Or perhaps it would be more exact to say that it represents one of the three pillars of the evidence of Christianity, the other two being represented respectively by such works as Professor Fisher's book, just named, and Professor Stearns's *Evidence of Christian Experience*. There is room for all these. Each represents a legitimate line of argument, each in its way indispensable. Yet it is perhaps not too much to say that the argument of Dr. Boardman's book is peculiarly adapted to the temper of our own day, while its brevity still further commends it to those busy men and women to whom we judge it is especially addressed.

It may be heartily commended to all who wish to deal fairly with the question, Who is Jesus, and what should be my attitude towards him? E. D. B.

The Gospel of Matthew in Greek. Edited by ALEXANDER KERR and HERBERT CUSHING TOLMAN, Professors in the University of Wisconsin. Chicago: Charles H. Kerr and Company, 1892. 12 mo., pp. 25×116. Price \$1.00.

This book has some excellent features. Its lists of quotations in Matthew from the Old Testament, of passages peculiar to Matthew, of words peculiar to Matthew, of ἀπαξ λεγόμενα in Matthew, its examples of Hebraism, and its historical and geographical indexes are all useful. Barring a few misprints in the Greek, its mechanical execution is good. It would be a convenient book for New Testament classes in college or academy. We should be glad to believe that its publication is a sign that there is to be more and better study of the Greek Testament in these institutions. It is probable that the authors would have made a more salable and perhaps a more useful book, if they had done either more or less. In its present form, though it contains some things useful to the advanced student, he will hardly purchase it for the sake of these, since they are, for the most part, accessible to him already, and perhaps even more because he will be repelled by the evidently elementary character of the book as a whole. If, on the other hand, it was intended for the beginner in the study of the Greek Testament, its value to him would have been but little diminished if some portions of the introduction had been omitted, and if even at the sacrifice of some of the mechanical beauty its bulk and its cost had been reduced by one-half. The section on the original language of Matthew is so inadequate as to be misleading. It would better have been omitted altogether.

E. D. B.

Pleas and Claims for Christ. By Rev. H. S. HOLLAND, M.A., Canon Residentiary and Precentor of St. Paul's. London: Longmans, Green & Co., 1892, pp. 323.

This is a volume of sermons, nineteen in all, the first ten offering pleas to